



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/825,019	04/15/2004	Glenn T. Siracki	ERIC.P0348US	7474
7590	10/07/2005		EXAMINER	
John W. Renner Renner, Otto, Boisselle & Sklar, LLP Nineteenth Floor 1621 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, OH 44115-2191			NASRI, JAVAID H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2839	

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/825,019

Applicant(s)

SIRACKI ET AL.

Examiner

Javaid Nasri

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 July 2005.  
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 11-25 is/are rejected.  
7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-10 is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/22/05.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objections*

1. Claim 21 is objected to because of the following informalities:
  - a) In claim 21, “the blocking wall” lacks antecedent base.

Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 1 and 11-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beadle (6,497,592).

Beadle discloses, **for claim 1**, a main port for a main power conductor and a series of tap ports for distribution of power, the main and tap ports comprising seating sockets with transversely extending clamp screws adapted to secure conductors seated in the sockets, an insulating case (see figure 8) for said block having a transparent cover (having holes 110, considered as transparent) providing visual access to the tip of said conductors (through 120), respective ports (110) in said case for inserting conductors fully seated in said respective ports, and ports in said cover providing access to said clamp screws whereby conductors may be inserted fully seated in said ports and secured with said clamp screws without contact with the block, **for claim 11**, a

Art Unit: 2839

conductive block having a main power connection in one side and smaller tap connections in another side, each connection comprising a socket to receive the conductor with a blocking abutment (at the end of 88) at the inner end to ensure proper insertion and to prevent over insertion, and a transverse clamp screw to secure the conductor in the socket when tightened, and an opening (144) at the abutment end of each socket to provide visual access to the end of the conductor when inserted properly against the abutment in the socket, **for claim 12**, an insulating case for said block, and a transparent window (110) in said case to provide the installer such visual access from outside the case (see figure 8), **for claim 13**, the transparent window is opposite the openings at the abutment end of each socket (see figure 8), **for claim 14**, the transparent window is the top of the case, **for claim 15**, the top may be hinged (112) to the case, **for claim 16**, including respective ports (110) in said top of said case providing limited access to the respective clamp screws, **for claim 17**, additional respective ports in said insulating case to enable bare conductor ends to be inserted into the respective socket against the abutment, **for claim 18**, alignment galleries (chamfered 88, 90) in said case to facilitate the insertion of said bare conductor ends into said sockets, **for claim 19**, the sockets are arranged in offset rows with the inner end of the sockets of at least one row being partially blocked by the adjoining row (see figures 3, 7, 12, 13), **for claim 20**, a wall of the block (end of 88, 90) partially blocking the inner end of each socket to prevent over insertion of the ends of the conductors, **for claim 21**, the blocking wall of each socket is formed with a generally inverted conical surface (see figures 13 and 14).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 22-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beadle. Beadle discloses all the structural limitations of claims 22-25 as shown above, however, Beadle does not describe the method as claimed. The claimed method language is counter part of the apparatus claimed. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to develop a particular method for the disclosed apparatus of the cited references.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

6. Claims 2-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The reason for allowance of the claims is the inclusion of the limitation,

- a) For claim 2, none of the prior art teaches or suggest, alone or in combination window openings in the block at the seating end of each port to enable the tip of

Art Unit: 2839

each conductor inserted to be viewed through the transparent cover, in combination with other limitations in the claim which is not found in the prior art reference of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### *Response to Arguments*

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

#### *Conclusion*

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

Art Unit: 2839


however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

### **Contact**

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javaid Nasri whose telephone number is 571 272 2095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tulsidas C. Patel can be reached on 571 272 2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Javaid Nasri  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2839

JN

Jhn  
October 4, 2005